



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5592

February Session, 2008

* _____HB05592APP____040108_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10-16p of the 2008 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

4 (d) (1) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
5 Commissioner of Social Services, shall establish a competitive grant
6 program to provide spaces in accredited school readiness programs for
7 eligible children who reside (A) in an area served by a priority school
8 or a former priority school as provided for in subdivision (2) of this
9 subsection, (B) in a town ranked one to fifty when all towns are ranked
10 in ascending order according to town wealth, as defined in subdivision
11 (26) of section 10-262f of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes,
12 whose school district is not a priority school district pursuant to
13 section 10-266p of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, or (C) in
14 a town formerly a town described in subparagraph (B) of this
15 subdivision, as provided for in said subdivision (2). A town in which a
16 priority school is located, a regional school readiness council, pursuant
17 to subsection (c) of section 10-16r, for a region in which such a school is
18 located or a town described in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision
19 may apply for such a grant in an amount not to exceed [one hundred
20 seven] two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars per priority school

21 or town. Grant recipients may receive a grant for one or more spaces in
22 accredited school readiness programs. Eligibility shall be determined
23 for a five-year period based on an applicant's designation as having a
24 priority school or being a town described in subparagraph (B) of this
25 subdivision for the initial year of application. Grant awards shall be
26 made annually contingent upon available funding and a satisfactory
27 annual evaluation. The chief elected official of such town and the
28 superintendent of schools of the school district or the regional school
29 readiness council shall submit a plan, as described in subsection (c) of
30 this section, for the expenditure of such grant funds to the Department
31 of Education. In awarding grants pursuant to this subsection, the
32 commissioner shall give preference to applications submitted by
33 regional school readiness councils and may, within available
34 appropriations, provide a grant in excess of [one hundred seven] two
35 hundred twenty-five thousand dollars to [towns with two or more
36 priority schools in such district] any town eligible for a competitive
37 grant pursuant to this subsection. A town or regional school readiness
38 council awarded a grant pursuant to this subsection shall use the funds
39 to purchase spaces for such children from providers of accredited
40 school readiness programs.

41 (2) (A) Commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, if a
42 town received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection
43 and is no longer eligible to receive such a grant, the town may receive
44 a phase-out grant for each of the three fiscal years following the fiscal
45 year such town received its final grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of
46 this subsection.

47 (B) The amount of such phase-out grants shall be determined as
48 follows: (i) For the first fiscal year following the fiscal year such town
49 received its final grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, in
50 an amount that does not exceed seventy-five per cent of the grant
51 amount such town received for the town or school's final year of
52 eligibility pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection; (ii) for the
53 second fiscal year following the fiscal year such town received its final

54 grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, in an amount that
55 does not exceed fifty per cent of the grant amount such town received
56 for the town's or school's final year of eligibility pursuant to
57 subdivision (1) of this subsection; (iii) for the third fiscal year following
58 the fiscal year such town received its final grant pursuant to
59 subdivision (1) of this subsection, in an amount that does not exceed
60 twenty-five per cent of the grant amount such town received for the
61 town's or school's final year of eligibility pursuant to subdivision (1) of
62 this subsection.

63 Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 10-145b of the
64 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
65 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

66 (c) (1) The State Board of Education, upon request of a local or
67 regional board of education, shall issue a temporary ninety-day
68 certificate to any applicant in the certification endorsement areas of
69 elementary education, middle grades education, secondary academic
70 subjects, special subjects or fields, special education, early childhood
71 education and administration and supervision when the following
72 conditions are met:

73 (A) The employing agent of a board of education makes a written
74 request for the issuance of such certificate and attests to the existence
75 of a special plan for supervision of temporary ninety-day certificate
76 holders;

77 (B) The applicant meets the following requirements, except as
78 otherwise provided in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision:

79 (i) Holds a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education
80 accredited by the Board of Governors of Higher Education or
81 regionally accredited with a major either in or closely related to the
82 certification endorsement area in which the requesting board of
83 education is placing the applicant or, in the case of secondary or
84 special subject or field endorsement area, possesses at least the

85 minimum total number of semester hours of credit required for the
86 content area;

87 (ii) Has met the requirements pursuant to subsection (b) of section
88 10-145f;

89 (iii) Presents a written application on such forms as the
90 Commissioner of Education shall prescribe;

91 (iv) Has successfully completed a program of classroom
92 management and instructional methodology approved by the State
93 Board of Education and, within available appropriations, provided
94 under contract with an institution of higher education designated by
95 the Department of Higher Education;

96 (v) Possesses an undergraduate college overall grade point average
97 of at least "B" or, if the applicant has completed at least twenty-four
98 hours of graduate credit, possesses a graduate grade point average of
99 at least "B"; and

100 (vi) Presents supporting evidence of appropriate experience
101 working with children; and

102 (C) The Commissioner of Education may waive the requirements of
103 subparagraphs (B)(v) or (B)(vi), or both, of this subdivision upon a
104 showing of good cause.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-16p(d)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10-145b(c)(1)

ED Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

APP

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